

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Call to Order: Chair Janna Taylor, on March 9, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Janna Taylor, Chair (R)
Sen. Edward Buttrey, Vice Chair (R) (arrived after roll call)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Sen. Scott Sales (R)
Sen. Bruce Tutvedt (R)
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary
Sheri Scurr, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 334, 2/25/2015; HB 366, 2/25/2015; HB 289, 2/24/2015; HB 461, 2/25/2015

HEARING ON HB 334

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:46 Rep. Rob Cook (R), HD 18, opened the hearing on HB 334, Generally revise laws applicable to county government.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:28 Harold Blattie, executive director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
[EXHIBIT\(los48a01\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:08:23 Sen. Barrett
00:08:41 Mr. Blattie, MACo
00:09:08 Sen. McNally
00:09:22 Mr. Blattie

Closing by Sponsor:

00:09:52 Rep. Cook

HEARING ON HB 366

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:10:29 Rep. Geraldine Custer (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 366, Revise county district court clerk and justice of peace compensation laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:57 Rick Cook, president, Montana Association of Clerks of District Court
[EXHIBIT\(los48a02\)](#)

00:17:35 Jessie Connolly, Montana Magistrates' Association (MMA)
00:18:37 Marilyn Craft, Montana Association of Clerks of District Court, Jefferson County
00:19:04 Faye McWilliams, Montana Association of Clerks of District Court, Cascade County
00:19:24 Lisa Sinton, Teton County
00:19:47 Hazel Parker, clerk of district court, Custer County
00:20:09 Marilyn Hollister, self
00:20:28 Lori Maloney, Montana Association of Clerks of District Court, Butte Silver Bow County

00:21:01 Mary (Marty) Phippen, Montana Association of Clerks of District Court (MACDC);
Montana Magistrates' Association (MMA)
00:21:46 David Carter, Yellowstone County Justice Court
00:22:03 Harold Blattie, executive director, Montana Association of Counties

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:22:51 Sen. Pomnichowski
00:23:32 Ms. Connolly, MMA
00:23:53 Sen. Barrett
00:24:15 Ms. Phippen, MACDC
00:24:26 Sen. Vuckovich
00:24:53 Ms. Phippen
00:25:25 Chair Taylor
00:25:36 Rep. Custer

Closing by Sponsor:

00:26:03 Rep. Custer

HEARING ON HB 289

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:27:37 Rep. Edward Greef (R), HD 88, opened the hearing on HB 289, Revise zoning requirements for economic development districts.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:30:33 Hollie Lund, Montana Association of Planners
00:31:03 Harold Blattie, executive director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)
00:32:39 Julie Foster, executive director, Ravalli County, Economic Development Association (EDA)

[EXHIBIT\(los48a03\)](#)

00:35:45 Amy Fisher, executive director, Montana Association of Realtors

Opponents' Testimony:

00:36:17 Mike Fellows, Montana Libertarian Party
[EXHIBIT\(los48a04\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:39:40 Sen. Vuckovich
 00:42:56 Rep. Greef
 00:43:42 Ms. Foster, EDA
 00:44:34 Sen. Vuckovich
 00:45:47 Ms. Foster
 00:46:43 Sen. Pomnichowski
 00:47:46 Mr. Blattie, MACo
 00:48:47 Sen. Pomnichowski
 00:49:33 Rep. Greef
 00:53:38 Ms. Foster
 00:53:55 Chair Taylor
 00:54:08 Harold Blattie

Closing by Sponsor:

00:54:27 Rep. Greef

HEARING ON HB 461

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:56:42 Rep. Steve Lavin (R), HD 8, opened the hearing on HB 461, Revise salary for certain justice positions.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:58:16 Jim Smith, Montana County Attorneys Association (MCAA)
[EXHIBIT\(los48a05\)](#)

01:03:51 Leo Gallagher, Lewis & Clark County attorney
 01:07:55 Suzy Boylan, deputy county attorney, Missoula County
 01:12:11 Harold Blattie, executive director, Montana Association of Counties
 01:12:42 Jennifer Clark, deputy county attorney, Missoula County
 01:15:29 Dave Carter, justice of the peace, Yellowstone County
 01:17:22 Jon Bennion, Department of Justice
 01:17:56 Jessie Connolly, Montana Magistrates' Association (MMA)
 01:18:30 Mary (Marty) Phippen, Montana Magistrates' Association
[EXHIBIT\(los48a06\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:20:25 Sen. Barrett
 01:24:53 Mr. Smith, MCAA
 01:25:09 Sen. Pomnichowski
 01:25:54 Ms. Connolly, MMA

01:26:12 Sen. Pomnichowski
01:26:30 Sheri Scurr, Legislative Services Division
01:27:06 Sen. Barrett
01:30:29 Mr. Smith
01:30:42 Chair Taylor
01:31:14 Rep. Lavin
01:31:26 Chair Taylor

Closing by Sponsor:

01:31:53 Rep. Lavin

01:33:54 Chair Taylor
01:34:21 Sen. Buttrey
01:34:26 Chair Taylor

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:03 P.M.

Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([los48aad.pdf](#))